

Meade County News.

JOHN D. WEBER, Publisher.

MEADE, KANSAS.

Any woman is worth her weight in gold—so she thinks.

An egotist is a man who thinks himself better than his neighbors.

Many a man would have a better wife if he wasn't such a poor husband.

A man can accomplish things at 20 that he would be ashamed to attempt at 40.

If people could only get rid of their imaginary troubles they would be fairly happy.

Just at the moment when the righteous are in the greatest despair aid is close at hand.

Man needs truth and consolation; but the truth may not be consoling, nor the consoling true.

You can learn more about a man in ten minutes after it is too late than you could in ten years before.

The happening of the unexpected never worries people who are not prepared for anything in particular.

Senator Dewey is an active member in twenty-five clubs, the United States senate, and eighty-two other corporations.

A New York man claims to have been driven into insanity by his own humor. The prevailing inclination is to shift the responsibility for such misfortunes.

The woman who thinks she is marrying a novelist's hero and the man who thinks he is marrying a wingless angel invariably discover that marriage is a failure.

The most deplorable thing in connection with our present day congressional verbosity is the fact that it comes largely from young men who ought to know better.

No less than 1,000 producers of verse entered a recent poetic competition. This is the utilitarian age more from the lack of a Tennyson than from a deficiency in the number of aspirants.

Kuang-Hau, the unhappy young Chinese emperor, still lives. In view of the expense attendant upon royal funerals it is quite possible that the empress dowager decided not to kill him until after the spring taxes had been collected.

The bridge of boats which now forms the only means of crossing the Bosphorus is entirely inefficient to meet the demands and it is suggested to build a tubular tunnel from shore to shore, so that traffic may go on without interruption. Because of the lack of a suitable foundation, this tube must be suspended or floated below the surface of the water. The scheme sounds somewhat impracticable, but it is being seriously considered.

It may be noted that while the professors are disputing as to the commercial utility of liquid air as a power, the main engine work of the world is still done by steam. Electricity came long before liquid air. It has been put to commercial uses for twenty years, and immense advances have been made in its production and application. Yet the extent to which it has actually superseded steam as an applied power is really trivial—and there is a steam engine behind every current of electricity that is put to commercial uses. Within a few special lines electricity is practicable as an agency for distributing the power originally generated in a steam engine; but the day when steam shall cease to be the driving power of the world seems to be as far off as ever.

An intelligent master-printer is quoted as saying to the men of his own trade, "Whether we wish for it or not, the eight-hour day is bound to come, and instead of wasting our strength in vain resistance, we shall find it wiser to consider how we can adjust our business to the inevitable change." With-out accepting or rejecting this prophecy, we may say with truth that the present agitation seems to follow in the track of the movement of sixty years ago, which reduced the working day from twelve or more hours of ten. It is urged by the same reasons; it is met by the same objections; it wins by the same zigzag advances. In eight states there has already been friendly legislation; in Boston and Worcester it has been approved by popular suffrage as a standard for all city employees. It is for the interest of both capital and labor that so serious a change should be made—if it is to be made at all—with the least possible disturbance to business.

The Greek word corresponding to "awful" was appropriately applied to many things describing pain or beauty or skill. English usage, however, would practically eliminate the word from youthful lips. Tennyson once read a new poem to his guests, the Dufferins. The daughter, a girl of fifteen, cried out enthusiastically, "How awfully pretty!" upon which Tennyson put his hand on her shoulder and said, "My dear child, do not use that dreadful word." In a voice of deep compunction she exclaimed, "Oh, I am awfully sorry!" to the amusement of all.

Lord Salisbury's remarks to Parliament that "We must join together and exercise all our powers in extricating ourselves from a situation full of humiliation and not free from danger." The time for making light of the task in hand has evidently passed.

New York's canal commission, backed by Gov. Roosevelt, recommend the deepening of the Erie canal to ten feet, an improvement that will cost the state \$62,000,000. The question will be submitted to voters at the next election.

SIX NINETY-SIX, MAIN

"It's strange," said a blue-eyed "central" to a "central" with gray-green eyes, "that no one ever calls up 696 on this circuit. The 'phone has been in three or four months now, and I test the wire regularly every morning, but there is no further communication with the house day in and day out."

"Who answers when you call?" inquired the girl with the gray-green eyes.

"A man. His voice sounds as though he were old. I suppose it is Mr. Rumford himself."

"George Whitman Rumford. That's his whole name. I looked him up in the city directory. No place of business is given. There is no occupation mentioned in connection with his name."

"My goodness, he is a mystery!" cried the girl with the gray-green eyes. Have you tested the wires yet this morning?"

"No."

"Let me try it then."

She rang up briskly. A voice answered: "Good morning."

"Testing the wire," responded "Central" cheerfully.

"The wire responds," said the voice. The gray-eyed "Central" turned to the blue-eyed "Central."

"No one ever answered me that way before," she observed. "He said: 'The wire responds.'"

"Yes, he always says that. It seems a sensible thing to say, but it sounds curious. I think he doesn't know what people are in the habit of saying over the telephone."

The weeks went by. From time to time the girl with gray eyes would say to Lida Nelson, the girl with blue eyes:

"Has 696 been called yet?"

"Never," said Miss Nelson, "but the wire still responds."

One day Miss Nelson, against all rules and regulations, attempted a diversion.

"It is an electrical sort of a morning," she observed. "It makes the voice sound unnatural over the wire."

There was an accent of eagerness in the voice that replied.

"It does, indeed," observed 696; "but don't you think voice always sounds a little strange in the telephone?"

Miss Nelson was quite aware that she had no right to continue the conversation, but she had held her curiosity.

"When you receive this," the donor had written, "I shall be where you cannot return it to me."

"My contemptible, selfish propriety!" sobbed Lida Nelson. "My cowardly discretion! It's the biggest chance I ever had for giving happiness, and I missed it. I let it go."

She was glad when her circuit was changed, so that she would have no further occasion to ring up Six-ninety-six, Main.—Chicago Tribune.

AMERICANS AT MONTE CARLO.

Giris. Were Somewhat Criticized for Going Alone.

"The first Americans have arrived," writes a resident at Monte Carlo to the New York Commercial Advertiser. "It is expected that an unusually large number of them will visit the Riviera this winter. The hotels have made every preparation to receive the guests. In the meanwhile the Russians, Austrians and especially the Germans, are arriving in number every day now and they will insure a fairly successful season. During the last week of December a party of young American ladies arrived. They were chaperoned by a somewhat elderly lady, and, having disembarked at Genoa, came here to pass their Christmas. They attracted much attention. Some persons thought them overbold to go about thus without male attendants, but admitted them for having the courage to do so—all the more as the young women paid no attention to people about them. The party has left for Milan, Florence, Rome and Naples and will be in Paris in March. The impression is general that one cannot live cheaply in Monte Carlo. This is a mistake. There are hotels, well furnished and well kept, where a person may live on pension for \$2.50 a day. The cuisine is good, the wines also, and the hotels are comfortable. I may add that several of these cheaper hotels have an outlook over the Monaco bay and the Mediterranean. Curiously enough, there are no hotels in Monaco proper—I mean the rock upon which stands the palace of the prince. The position is admirable and a large hotel in Monaco would be a great success undoubtedly, but the trouble is the prince would not consent to having a hotel upon the rock. In all the principality the work of the prince is paramount and even the making of alterations in any building or the erection of a new building depends upon the consent of his serene highness."

The Blood Red Banner.

Royal and national colors vary with nations and times, but since Cain slew Abel blood-red has been the sign of revolt. In the earliest revolt known to history, when the Persians rose against their king 4,000 years ago, they were led by a blood-red banner, and during the riots which took place in Paris the men in the blood-red caps were followed by the mob. A blood-red flag waved over Bunker Hill when the Americans fought for liberty, and it was the emblem of the German peasants in their great uprisings in 1424, 1492 and 1525. Blood-red was the color of the trade union flags during the middle ages, and it formed the background of the emblem of the Swiss confederacy in 1315.

Why People Are Right-handed.

A professor who has made a study of children says he has discovered why the majority of people are right-handed. Infants use both hands until they begin to speak. The motor speech function controls the right side of the body and the first right-handed motions, tending to help out speech, as speech grows so grows right-handedness.

First Row in Paradise.

A Russian correspondent sends us details of a very interesting and amusing tale told by a Russian veterinary surgeon who was sent into the Ural district to buy horses and hay for the peasants of the famine-stricken provinces. He had to do mostly with the natives (Kirghis), who are half-savage, but who, nevertheless, were found to be extremely honest and absolutely trustworthy in all buying and selling, some of them even offering to give horses for the starving peasants. Quite a different story has the surgeon to tell of the Ural Cossacks, who did their level best to cheat him in the most barefaced manner, and on whom no reliance was to be placed. And yet these Cossacks are very religious and so simple in certain respects that a swindler succeeded in selling them quite a number of tickets for—paradise.

Faztione.

Daisy Medders (sentimentally)—"Tell me, Abner, why do you love me so much? Abner Applody (practically)—"Darned if I know."

MORPHINE BEAT THE DEAL BOX

Young Gambler Persuaded to Stop While He Was a Winner.

"I see gambling is running wide open in Colorado again," said Walter Harris, a cattleman of Topeka to a Denver Republican reporter. "I don't suppose, though, it is as wide open now as it was in the late '30s. I was in Manitou every summer at that time and the high games that used to run at some of the clubs would be an eye-opener to the gamblers of the present day. Cattlemen were making money then, as were the miners, and they used to meet in Manitou and try for each other's pocketbooks, with the result that the professional gamblers got the money. I remember how one young fellow was made to quit winning against his will. His name was Rich. He was a nephew of one of the big reaper men and his folks kept him supplied with money, a regular allowance. He had been gambling every cent of it, letting bills pile up for hotel and livery and everything else. His people sent word that they wouldn't send any more money, and said if he got into trouble he'd have to get out himself. 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